

**County of Jackson
Substance Abuse Treatment Services for Child Welfare Families
Enrolled in Family Drug Court in Rural Oregon
Medford, Oregon
TI14163**

Authorized Representative

Susan Slack
10 South Oakdale
Medford, OR 97501
(541) 774-6035
(541) 774-6455 fax
slackSF@jacksoncounty.org

Project Director

Carin Niebuhr
1005 East Main Street
Medford, OR 97504
(541) 774-8200
(541) 774-7980 fax
niebhurcl@jacksoncounty.org

Project Evaluator

Linda Lewis
221 West Main Street
Medford, OR 97504
(541) 772-1777
(541) 734-2410 fax
lontrack@cybernetip.net

Project Contact

Carin Niebuhr
1005 East Main Street
Medford, OR 97504
(541) 774-8200
(541) 774-7980 fax
niebhurcl@jacksoncounty.org

Grants Management Specialist

Emmanuel Djokou
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockwall II, Suite 630
Rockville, MD 20857
(301) 443-1714
(301) 443-6468 fax
edjokou@samhsa.gov

Project Officer

Bruce Fry
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockwall II, Suite 630
Rockville, MD 20857
(301) 443-0128
(301) 443-6468 fax
bfry@samhsa.gov

B & D ID
52002

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Expansion or Enhancement Grant—Expansion and Enhancement

Program Area Affiliation—Treatment Drug Courts (Criminal Justice, Families)

Congressional District and Congressperson—Oregon 2 (applicant and project); Greg Walden

Public Health Region—X (project)

Purpose, Goals, and Objectives—This project was created in response to the growing problems caused by substance abuse, child abuse, and the languishment of children in the child welfare system. The purpose of the proposed project is to add a dependent family drug court to the existing court system to decrease child abuse and neglect and parental recidivism among chemically addicted parents with child abuse or neglect charges. The services offered will maximize families' capacities to provide safe and nurturing environments. The overarching goal of the Jackson County Integrated Family Drug Court, as it relates to this proposal, is to provide sufficient chemical dependency treatment programming such that the community evidences a decrease in the number of substance abuse-related cases of child abuse or neglect for which parental rights are severed. The project has three major goals:

- Reduce substance abuse in participating families
- Reduce child abuse and neglect in participating families
- Increase the number of children who have safe, permanent homes within the drug court population

(page 2)

Target Population—The target population for the proposed enhancement/expansion of Jackson County's Integrated Family Drug Court is substance-abusing parents who are charged with abuse or neglect of their minor children, and their minor children. The target population has been identified with the following needs and characteristics:

- Families in poverty, the majority single parent, single mother households
- Multi dysfunctional families with chronic inter-generational issues
- 23 percent minority, the largest minority Hispanic

(pages 5, 11)

Geographic Service Area—Families residing in Jackson County, Oregon (page 2)

Drugs Addressed—The drugs addressed include methamphetamine. (page 2)

Theoretical Model—No specific theoretical model is addressed. The project plans to use intensive outpatient day treatment programs that would include the essential elements of the HOME and DADS programs: skill-building training, 3-hour treatment groups 5 days per week, family advocacy, in-home and group parent training, family therapy, respite child care, and interagency staffing. The family advocate would assist the family in obtaining and maintaining safe, drug-free housing and employment assistance. (pages 7-8)

Type of Applicant—County (page 1)

SERVICE PROVIDER STRUCTURE

Service Organizational Structure—Jackson County, in the form of its Department of Health and Human Services, will serve as the application organization, managing department, and fiscal agent for the expanded Integrated Family Drug Court program. OnTrack, Inc., will serve as the primary service provider for the proposed project and will be the predominant provider of chemical dependency and family therapy treatment services for the target population. (pages 14, 21)

Service Providers—OnTrack, Inc., will serve as the primary service provider for the proposed project and will be the predominant provider of chemical dependency and family therapy treatment services for the target population. Addictions Recovery Center is the secondary treatment provider for this project. (page 21)

Services Provided—The project provides a combination of residential, day, and intensive outpatient treatment. The project also provides family therapy and parent training. (pages 10-11)

Service Setting—The primary setting where services are provided is an outpatient clinic. (pages 10-11)

Number of Persons Served—The additional CSAT funding will enable the Jackson County Family Drug Court to provide comprehensive treatment to approximately 50 families who have been court-adjudicated into the child welfare system. To date, the family drug court has focused its efforts on juvenile offenders, but with this initiative it will expand its focus to include chemically dependent parents who have been charged with child abuse or neglect. (pages 1, 12)

Desired Project Outputs—Desired project outputs are as follows:

- Of those families who participate in the integrated drug court each year, at least 65 percent will successfully complete a prescribed course of chemical dependency treatment.
 - Of those families who successfully complete treatment, 75 percent will remain drug free for three months after treatment.
 - Timely permanency planning will be increased by 10 percent over year 2000 figures for children in the family drug court project.
 - Families participating in the family drug court will have decreasing numbers of repeat referrals for child abuse and neglect.
 - Families in the family drug court program will significantly improve parenting skills and attitudes that promote reduction of child abuse and neglect.
 - Families in family drug court will improve family functioning to better support a nurturing home life.
- (pages 8-9)

Consumer Involvement—There is a drug court steering committee currently in place. The steering committee is composed of representatives from child protective services, judges, juvenile justice, adult defender, state self-sufficiency programs, the chemical dependency treatment community, public defenders, the Job Council, the deputy district attorney, and Jackson County Department of Health and Human Services. The committee has been responsible for developing court and program policies to support the drug court and for overcoming obstacles and generating

resources. The steering committee continues its involvement in planning for an enhanced drug court. (page 14)

EVALUATION

Strategy and Design—Program evaluation will occur through three distinct methodologies and through three interdependent methodologies. The first to be applied will be a formative and fidelity design. The formative evaluation seeks to analyze the project's overall processes and monitor the degree to which the project adheres to critical program design elements. The project plans to collect evaluative treatment data using the CSAT GPRA Client Outcome Measures for Discretionary Programs. The tool will be administered upon acceptance into drug court, after completion of informed consent to participate in the study project has been signed, to collect baseline information on all adult IFDC participants. The project will also use local evaluation methods. The primary purpose of local evaluation is to engage in individual systematic studies to assess how well the program is working and why particular outcomes have or have not been achieved. The evaluative approach outlined will match measures and data sources to key program objectives in order to address project utility. It will include a process evaluation component to provide information needed for program monitoring and review.

Evaluation Goals/Desired Results—There are three primary goals:

Goal 1: Reduce substance abuse in participating families

Process objectives

- To enroll 50 families in the Jackson County Integrated Family Drug Court Program
- To provide comprehensive ASAM-II criteria to 50 families per annum
- To provide intensive chemical dependency treatment, at levels assigned according to ASAM-II criteria, to 50 families per annum
- To provide scheduled and court-ordered UA's to 50 families per annum

Goal 2: Reduce child abuse and neglect in participating families

Process objectives

- To provide intense case management and wraparound services to 50 drug court families per annum
- To provide comprehensive family services treatment plan that is integrated with the child permanency plan to 50 drug court families per annum
- To provide parent training and/or in-house parenting services to 50 drug court families per annum
- To provide developmentally appropriate respite child care to the children ages 0–8 of 50 drug court families who need respite care
- To provide family therapy to all drug court families who have completed 8 weeks of substance abuse treatment

Goal 3: Increase the number of children who have safe, permanent homes within the drug court population

Process objectives

- All children of families in the drug court program will have a permanency plan that is integrated with the comprehensive family treatment plan, and this plan will be reviewed monthly to ensure it is in congruence with the guidelines of ASFA (pages 9-10)

Evaluation Questions and Variables—

- What challenges and barriers is the project encountering? What resources is the project lacking? Are there certain project resources that could be re-assigned or re-budgeted to achieve improved outcomes?
- What assurances can be given about the degree to which the program adheres to critical program design elements or best practices? (i.e., as stated in the original application for Federal assistance; as defined by CSAT for treatment drug courts; as defined by the Oregon Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse programs for “intensive outpatient treatment”)
- Are there reasons why the project may wish to deviate from critical program design elements or best practices, and are these reasons sufficiently documented and justifiable?
- What unintended impacts or outcomes is the project producing, and are these favorable or negative? What steps might be taken to capitalize upon positive impacts or to reduce negative outcomes?
- Is the broader community generally supportive of the treatment drug court program? Does the project have any detractors? How might the concerns of detractors be ameliorated?
- What quantitative documentation, if any, can the steering committee provide about any cost savings that might have been realized as a result of the treatment drug court program implementation?
- Have any of the program’s participants who are in attendance at the formative evaluation session encountered any access problems or barriers in acquiring needed services? If so, what specific programs, services, agencies, and/or providers were involved?
- Are the services in this project meeting the cultural needs of the target population? How do we know? How many minority families are in this project, and what is their experience in the project? How are we addressing language issues for the non-English-speaking population? (page 15)

Instruments and Data Management—Multiple measures will be used to capture rich information, both qualitative and quantitative, and to ensure reliability and validity of data. The project is also using non-published instruments and GPRA. The following published instruments will be used:

- Adult/Adolescent Parenting Inventory 2: It will be used as a pre- and post- measurement of changes in parenting attitudes and beliefs.
- Parenting skills assessment: It will be used to measure parenting skills pre- and post-participation in group or in-home parenting training. OnTrack will identify the instrument.
- Family Self-Sufficiency Scale: It will be used as a pre- and post- participation measure for comprehensive family functioning. (pages 17–18)